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Trends

ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICAN RAILROADS
OFFICE OF INFORMATION AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, February 4, 1982 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended January 30 totaled an estimated 16.2 billion ton-miles, 11.9 percent below the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today. The decline was due, in part, to continued severe weather conditions in some parts of the country.

Cumulative volume for the first 5 weeks of 1982 was an estimated 74.4 billion ton-miles, 13.8 percent below the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended January 30 totaled 374,185 cars, 15.5 percent below 1981, but 2.7 percent higher than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were down 23.4 percent in the East, 8.1 percent in the South, and 14.5 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1981, 19 of the 21 commodity groups were down. However, 13 of the 21 commodity groups were up from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended January 23 totaled 32,749 cars, up 1.4 percent from the corresponding week of 1981, and 60,435 trailers and/or containers, 4.3 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first four weeks of the year was 113,808 cars, 1.9 percent higher than last year, and 209,939 trailers and/or containers, up 4.4 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 1/30/82:

	Loadings in Week ended January 30,1982		Change from Corresponding Week 1981			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	25,662	D	6,047	19.1	D	223	0.9
Other farm products	4,373	I	284	6.9	D	339	7.2
Metallic ores	15,986	D	9,499	37.3	D	2,843	15.1
Coal	109,134	D	8,917	7.6	I	4,977	4.8
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	8,312	D	2,588	23.7	I	597	7.7
Nonmetallic minerals	9,548	D	2,936	23.5	D	662	6.5
Grain mill products	14,528	D	2,090	12.6	I	542	3.9
Food and kindred products	14,915	D	2,240	13.1	D	250	1.6
Primary forest products	17,604	D	2,307	11.6	I	625	3.7
Lumber and wood products except furniture	6,042	D	3,555	37.0	I	484	8.7
Pulp, paper and allied products	17,987	D	3,482	16.2	I	1,034	6.1
Chemicals and allied products	23,547	D	5,289	18.3	I	1,070	4.8
Petroleum products	5,407	D	1,027	16.0	D	283	5.0
Stone, clay and glass products	9,931	D	3,726	27.3	I	215	2.2
Coke	4,544	D	1,686	27.1	I	173	4.0
Metals and products	12,126	D	4,756	28.2	I	703	6.2
Motor vehicles and equipment	12,307	D	4,554	27.0	D	211	1.7
Waste and scrap materials	9,477	D	3,580	27.4	D	26	0.3
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	9,037	D	1,376	13.2	I	524	6.2
All other carloads	43,520	I	872	2.0	I	3,596	9.0
LCL traffic	198	D	146	42.4	I	56	39.4
Total Cars Loaded	374,185	D	68,645	15.5	I	9,759	2.7
Corresponding week of 1981	442,830						

	1982	1981	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (5 weeks)	1,708,984	2,050,802	D 16.7
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
4 Weeks cumulative	58.1	67.9	D 14.4
Week ended January 30	16.2	18.4	D 11.9
5 Weeks cumulative	74.4	86.3	D 13.8

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